

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8831
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USMTN
USEC

PASS STR FOR STARKEY AND AGRICULTURE FOR SORENSON

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MTN, EAGR
SUBJECT: EEC REQUEST-OFFER PROPOSAL FOR GROUP AGRICULTURE

REF: GENEVA 5221

1. DURING JUNE IWC MEETING IN LONDON, EC REPRESENTATIVE JAQUOT, IIN CONVERSATION WITH KOENIG, MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THE EC PROPOSAL REPORTED IN THE REFTEL.
2. JAQUOT STATED THAT THE FRENCH HAD FEARED THAT THE PROPOSAL GOES TOO FAR BUT HAD BEEN PLACATED BY THE EMPHASIS ON IMPROVING METHODS OF ADMINISTERING TRADE BARRIERS RATHER THAN ON THEIR REDUCTION OR ELIMINATION.
3. JAQUOT SAID THAT IF THE EEC PROPOSAL WERE ACCEPTED

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BY GROUP AGRICULTURE, IT WOULD TAKE A LONG TIME, PROBABLY UNTIL MARCH OR APRIL 1978, BEFORE THE EC WOULD BE READY TO SUBMIT ITS REQUEST LISTS. HOWEVER, THE EC PROPOSAL BEING IN LINE WITH THE EC MANDATE, NO NEW MANDATE IS NECESSARY TO MAKE SPECIFIC REQUESTS OR OFFERS.

4. JAQUOT STRESSED THE ELASTICITY OF THE EC MANDATE.

HE SAID IT LENDS ITSELF TO MANY INTERPRETATIONS. IT IS, HE SAID, PREFERABLE TO STRETCH THE MANDATE RATHER THAN TO WORK OUT A NEW ONE WHICH WOULD BE AN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT AND TIME CONSUMING TASK. HE SAID, PROVIDED A NEGOTIATING STEP IN THE MTN MEETS WITH THE CONSENSUS OF THE MEMBER STATES, GRANTED EITHER IN THE 113 COMMITTEE OR LESS FORMALLY ELSEWHERE, IT IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO LINK SUCH A STEP TO THE MANDATE.

5. JAQUOT NOTED EC PROPOSAL DID NOT EXTEND TO PRODUCTS COVERED BY THE 3 SUBGROUPS BUT SAID HE PERSONALLY WOULD NOT BE AVERSE TO AN EXTENSION OF A REQUEST-OFFER PROCEDURE TO SUCH PRODUCTS WHICH DO NOT LEND THEMSELVES TO A COMMODITY AGREEMENT. HE DOUBTED, HOWEVER, THAT ALL MEMBER STATES WOULD BE WILLING TO MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION. HE WAS, AS MAY BE EXPECTED, SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE IDEA OF SUBJECTING TO REQUEST-OFFER PROCEDURES ALSO PRODUCTS WHICH WOULD BE INCLUDED IN COMMODITY AGREEMENTS BUT CONCEDED THAT THERE WAS NO GOOD A PRIORI REASON WHY REQUESTS FOR THE REDUCTION OF TRADE BARRIERS ON SUCH PRODUCTS SHOULD NOT BE MADE.

6. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH CORSON, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FRENCH GRAIN ORGANIZATION (ONIC), THE LATTER TOLD KOENING THAT FRANCE WOULD NOT LIKE TO SEE A LIMITATION ON EXPORT QUANTITIES SUBSIDIZED.
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IN THE FURTHER COURSE OF THE CONVERSATION THAT WAS INTERPRETED TO MEAN A DIVISION OF THE WORLD MARKET. CULBERT

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Message Attributes

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